



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Friday, February 22, 2008**

**08-29**

## **ALASKA COUPLE INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY ON FIREARMS CHARGES**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced that on February 21, 2008, Matthew Wade Decker, of Anchorage, and Michele Emma King, of Chitina, Alaska, were indicted by a federal grand jury in Anchorage on charges of felon in possession of a firearm and providing a firearm to a known felon.

The three-count indictment named Decker, age 42, of 8020 Greenwood Street, Anchorage, and King, age 30, of Mile 10, McCarthy Road, Chitina, as the defendants.

According to the indictment, Decker, who has a 1986 conviction for first-degree murder, possessed a Smith & Wesson .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol, which had been provided to him by King.

Special Assistant United States Attorney Erin E. White, who presented the case to the grand jury, indicated that both defendants face a maximum total sentence of 10 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, or both. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed will be based upon the seriousness of the offenses and the prior criminal history, if any, of the defendant.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Anchorage Police Department conducted the investigation leading to the indictment in this case.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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